Agenda Date: 6/4/03 Agenda Item: VII A



STATE OF NEW JERSEY

Board of Public Utilities Two Gateway Center Newark, NJ 07102 www.bpu.state.nj.us

Marshall H. Berman,

Petitioner,

V.

Rockland Electric Company,
Respondent.

Customer Assistance

ORDER ADOPTING
INITIAL DECISION

INITIAL DECISION

BPU Docket No. EC02050292U
OAL Docket No. PUC 9186-02

(SERVICE LIST ATTACHED)

BY THE BOARD:

On May 10, 2002, Marshall H. Berman (Petitioner) filed a petition with the Board of Public Utilities (Board) for a hearing alleging overbilling by Rockland Electric Company (Respondent). On September 4, 2002, Respondent filed an answer denying the allegations.

On September 13, 2002, the Board transmitted this matter to the Office of Administrative Law (OAL) for determination and initial disposition as a contested case pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. and N.J.S.A. 52:14F-1 et seq. The matter was assigned to Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) Edith Klinger.

During the pendency of this matter at the OAL, the parties engaged in negotiations and executed a Stipulation of Settlement. The settlement was submitted to the ALJ for review. On April 30, 2003, ALJ Klinger filed her Initial Decision with the Board, recommending that the settlement be approved. The ALJ found the settlement to be voluntary, consistent with the law and fully dispositive of all issues in controversy. The ALJ therefore concluded that the settlement met the requirements of N.J.A.C. 1:1-19.1.

The settlement provides that Marshall Berman will pay Rockland Electric Company the sum of \$2,300.00, consisting of 71 monthly installments of \$32.00 and a final payment of \$28.00.

After review, the Board <u>FINDS</u> that the terms of the settlement are fair and reasonable. Therefore, the Board <u>HEREBY ADOPTS</u> the Initial Decision and Stipulation of Settlement in their entirety, incorporating the terms thereof into this final decision as if fully set forth at length herein.

DATED: 6/5/03	BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES BY:	
	SIGNED JEANNE M. FOX PRESIDENT	
SIGNED		SIGNED
FREDERICK F. BUTLER COMMISSIONER		CAROL J. MURPHY COMMISSIONER
SIGNED		SIGNED
CONNIE O. HUGHES COMMISSIONER		JACK ALTER COMMISSIONER
ATTEST:		
SIGNED		
KRISTI IZZO SECRETARY		

Marshall H. Berman v. Rockland Electric Company

BPU Dkt. No. EC02050292U OAL Dkt. No. PUC 9186-02

SERVICE LIST

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